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The Unknown Soldier and His Wife

Peter Ustinov

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LTs

PRESENTS



THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER...
and HIS WIFE
by PETER USTINOV

in THE ^{new} LITTLE THEATRE

April 16, 17, 18, 19
23, 24, 25, 26

8:30 P.M.

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY - SPEECH DEPT.

OUR NEW LITTLE THEATRE

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to our new Little Theatre, the permanent home of the LTS. It is here that we will stage our major plays, the Readers Theatre programs, the workshop and experimental productions. Additionally, the entire theatre complex is designed to accommodate teaching the theatre courses of the Speech Department.

The facilities include: separate dressing rooms, a Green Room, a storage and work area, an observation classroom, a technical room, the house and the stage.

The house seats 108 comfortably. The chairs are portable, allowing us to arrange them to suit the individual play. Because the seating capacity is limited, we increased the number of performances to eight--with a Thursday through Sunday run of two weeks. Admission is still free, and all seats are available on a first-come basis.

The stage is an open platform without a curtain. Both it and the house comprise an organic unit, the walls of the house merging with those of the stage. The sides and back of the stage are framed in with a permanent architectural redwood facade with eleven openings for variety and fluidity of action. The spotlights are hung openly from the light bridge and side poles in the house.

If you feel that you are in an authentic theatre, then we have achieved our goal.

The Fall play will be one of the following: PANTAGLEIZE by Ghelderode; CORRUPTION IN THE PALACE OF JUSTICE by Betti; ALCESTIS by Euripides; Aeschylus' PROMETHEUS BOUND.

Cast auditions are held for each play. The specific dates are in the university calendar. All Carroll students in good standing are eligible for the cast and production staff.



THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER and HIS WIFE

Ustinov labels his play "Two acts of war separated by a truce for refreshment."

The play was staged at Lincoln Center several years ago. It was critically acclaimed as a marvelously wry mock on war--those who make it, fight it and die in it.

It is the tale of the common soldier who is about to be buried with honors but who, on investigation, turns out to be the same fall-guy throughout the world's history, dragging his wife along with him. His wife is perpetually pregnant with the child the soldier will never see.

As a matter of fact, the general we first meet, the one who is so concerned about the television cameras, turns out as well to be the same indifferent and reckless warrior throughout history. The same enemy leader, rebel, priest, inventor, sergeant, soldiers, and woman captive keep turning up, too.

Over and over the same wars recur and the same common soldier is buried with honors after death. Then one day. . .

We agree with the New York critics who praised the play as "intelligent and literate, gifted with wit, sardonic humor and a saving sense of low comedy."

An anonymous 16th century poet caught the longing of all the unknown soldiers when he wrote:

Western wind, when will thou blow,
The small rain down can rain?
Christ! that my love were in my arms
And I in my bed again!

PETER USTINOV

Peter Ustinov will be 49 this month. He was born in London and is a British citizen. His father, Iona Ustinov, also a writer, was the son of a Russian general, who went to live in Germany. His mother is the French painter, Nadia Benois.

He speaks five languages, and needs them all to communicate with the family's mixed races and nationalities. His great-grandmother was Ethiopian and her family is still represented at the Ethiopian court. Others of the family tree are German, English and Italian.

Peter Ustinov, actor, director and writer is also a non-resident rector of Dundee University in Scotland. He was chosen by the students as their spokesman.

Ustinov, who never got beyond prep school, was asked if he found the students different than he expected.

"I'm sure we are all different because things are moving at such a frightfully fast pace. Students are always militant. In 1919, the czarist police were always looking for students. South America is full of students shouting their heads off. But there is no doubt they are more advanced intellectually these days than before. Obviously, there is a generation gap. After all you can't have children before you are 15. Another sign of the gap is the mediocrities who are leading the world today. They are chosen not for their qualities but for their lack of vices."

Ustinov has just completed a novel about an American police chief called "Crumnagel." "It's a very compassionate story. The chief is one of those men who encourages criticism and never forgives it."

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director	Leone J. Marinello
Stage Manager.	Richard Snider
Stage Construction	John Schlosser
	Richard Snider
Lighting	Frank Widynski
	Kathy McWilliams
Properties	Cindi Seman
Costumes	Jacqueline Dupree
	Maureen Powers
	Mary Kandrak
Sound.	Carol Mower
	Steve Silverstein
Make-up.	Marie D'Amico
	Carol Jean Calo
Bookholders.	Marylynn Coffey
	Carol Mower
House Managers	Marylynn Coffey
	Joe Marinello
Publicity.	Ed Joseph
	Elaine Gorski
Theatre Maintenance.	Jon McKenzie
	Ed Joseph

SPECIAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Stage.	John Schlosser
Lighting	Leo McManus
Art, Backdrop and	
Program cover.	Elaine Gorski
Choreography	Barbara Vercek
Photography.	Tom Deeley

CHARACTERS

(in order of speaking)

Sergeant Joe Cummins
35914. William Simmer
General. Dave Blair
Rebel. Ed Joseph
Wife Christine Mower
Archbishop Jon McKenzie
14768. John Lawn
71696. Jerry Novak
Unknown Soldier. John Mannen
94343. Ray Holan
Enemy Leader Jim Fraley
Inventor Richard Snider
Woman. Alanna Fallon

Scene: Act I WAR
Intermission of Ten Minutes
Act II WAR

Time: The Present
The Past
The Future???

ALANNA FALLON is a freshman speech major making her first appearance with the LTS. She attended St. Augustine Academy and starred in St. Ignatius' production of FIORELLO. She plays the role of the Woman.

JOHN MANNEN, a freshman psychology major, starred as Mark Brag in Regina High School's production of ALAS, BABYLON. This is his first role with the LTS. He plays the Unknown Soldier.

DAVE BLAIR, a senior speech major from Chillicothe, is playing the role of the General. Dave has appeared in The Theatre in the Lounge. This is his first appearance with the LTS.

JIM FRALEY, JR. is playing the Enemy Leader in this, his first appearance on stage and with the LTS. He is a sophomore speech major from Detroit.

JOE CUMMINS is another newcomer to the LTS, playing the role of the Sargeant. He is a sophomore English major from Detroit. In high school he played John Proctor in THE CRUCIBLE and John, the Monk, in BECKETT.

JOHN LONG attended Fairfield Prep in his home town in Connecticut. He is a junior English major and making his first effort in the theatre as a Soldier.

MEET THE CAST

ED JOSEPH, a senior speech major, takes his fifth LTS assignment as the Rebel. He has previously performed in SIX CHARACTERS, TOPAZE, AGAMEMNON, and THE LESSON. He has been affiliated with the Ursaline College Drama Club in the productions of TALK TO ME LIKE THE RAIN AND LET ME LISTEN and UNDER MILKWOOD. Last Spring he produced and directed Jean Paul Sartre's NO EXIT for Room I. He plans a career in the theatre.

JON MCKENZIE, a junior psychology major, has previously appeared at John Carroll in AGAMEMNON and THE ZOO STORY and at Ursaline College in UNDER MILKWOOD. He has also been featured in Room I and The Theatre in the Lounge. Jon takes the role of the Archbishop.

RICHARD SNIDER, who takes the role of the Inventor, has appeared before with the LTS in TOPAZE. Rick is a junior English major and doubles as stage manager with his acting activities.

CHRISTINE MOWER is a freshman philosophy major taking her second role with the LTS as the Wife. Last semester she appeared in THE LESSON. Besides performing in numerous productions at Regina High School before attending Carroll, Chris was a member of the ensemble in Karamu House's production of VIET ROCK.



BILL SIMMER is a freshman English major from Detroit making his first appearance with the LTS as a Soldier. Bill had a successful high school drama career winning the City Genesian Play Festival Award for his performance as Mr. Badger in THE WIND AND THE WILLOWS.

JERRY NOVAK is a freshman biology major who comes to us from Chanel High School. Jerry worked on the crew for last Fall's production and is now playing a Soldier.

RAY HOIAN is making his first effort with the LTS and on stage. He is a senior English major. Ray attended St. Ignatius High School and plays a Soldier.

LTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President Michelle Reilley
Publicity Director. Ed Joseph
Business Manager. Jon McKenzie

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Little Theatre Society extends its warmest thanks to all those who assisted us in presenting this production.

THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AND HIS WIFE is produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.









